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THE WHITE CEDAR IN WESTERN LONG ISLAND

BY EUGENE P. BICKNELL

The article by Dr. R. M. Harper in *TORREYA* (7: 198-200. O 1907), entitled "A Long Island Cedar Swamp," makes appropriate some further reference to the southern white cedar, *Chamaecyparis thyoides* (L.) B. S. P., in western Long Island.

In this region the white cedar is one of the rarer trees and is known to me from only three localities, all on the south side of the island. It occurs near Merrick, in Rockville Center, at a point nearly six miles to the west, and again directly west, eight and a half miles between Jamaica South and Aqueduct, this station being within the corporate limits of Greater New York and not ten miles from the Brooklyn Borough Hall.

The locality near Merrick is the cedar swamp described by Dr. Harper and earlier mentioned by Mr. J. T. Nichols in *Rhodora* (9: 74. Ap 1907). In the interest of a clear record it should be said that this cedar swamp is the same one to which an excursion of the Torrey Club was conducted by Miss F. A. Mulford on May 30, 1906. Upon that occasion the swamp was explored at a point over half a mile north of the railroad. Dr. Harper traced the cedars several hundred yards south of the railroad. Hence it appears that the growth extends nearly a mile north and south along the stream. Probably no more extensive growth of this tree occurs within a much greater distance from New York.

A colony some eight miles further to the east, just west of Amityville, is also reported by Mr. Nichols (*loc. cit.*).

At Rockville Center two good-sized trees grow near together in the swampy thicket along the brook flowing from Hempstead Pond.

The westernmost station, a mile and a quarter east of Aqueduct, is a swampy spot in the woods which, though it now becomes dry in summer, was once evidently a more permanent swamp and formed the source of a small brook. Here is an assemblage of white cedars not more than a few rods in extent, the remnant of an ancient colony as attested by the size of some of the trees. When last visited, May 9, 1906, many of the trees were dead or

dying, the most vital appearing green in their upper parts only. The largest trunk measured 7 feet 6 inches in circumference close to the base and 6 feet 9 inches a foot above the ground.

Of the localities mentioned by Torrey (1842) that at Hempstead is probably now reduced to the two companion trees at Rockville Center on the stream flowing south from Hempstead, which was dammed and excavated over thirty years ago, I am told, to form the Hempstead reservoir and associated ponds.

Wherever Torrey's Rockaway station may have been, there can be little doubt that it no longer exists.

NEW YORK, December, 1907.

A KEY TO THE WHITE AND BRIGHT-COLORED SESSILE POLYPOREAE OF TEMPERATE NORTH AMERICA. — II

BY WILLIAM A. MURRILL

G. THE SPECIES OF TYROMYCES

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Pileus large, 8 cm. or more in diameter. | 2 |
| Pileus small, 5 cm. or less in diameter. | 6 |
| 2. Tubes less than 5 mm. long. | 3 |
| Tubes more than 5 mm. long. | 5 |
| 3. Surface of pileus marked with circular depressed spots. | |
| <i>T. guttulatus</i> (Peck) Murrill | |
| Surface of pileus not guttulate. | 4 |
| 4. Pileus over 1 cm. thick. | <i>T. palustris</i> (B. & C.) Murrill |
| Pileus less than 5 mm. thick. | <i>T. obductus</i> (Berk.) Murrill |
| 5. Pileus very smooth, becoming dark sordid-bay on drying. | <i>T. Smallii</i> Murrill |
| Pileus rough, sodden, white, becoming blackish, especially at the margin. | |
| <i>T. Spraguei</i> (B. & C.) Murrill | |
| Pileus tuberculose, ochraceous, not becoming blackish. | <i>T. tiliophila</i> Murrill |
| 6. Pileus resinous or cartilaginous in appearance. | 7 |
| Pileus neither resinous nor cartilaginous. | 8 |
| 7. Tubes sharply and deeply lacerate. | <i>T. cerifluus</i> (B. & C.) Murrill |
| Tubes slightly dentate. | <i>T. semisupinus</i> (B. & C.) Murrill |
| 8. Tubes large, irregular, lacerate, 1-2 to a mm. | <i>T. undosus</i> (Peck) Murrill |
| Tubes much smaller, usually regular and entire. | 9 |
| 9. Surface zonate. | 10 |
| Surface azonate. | 11 |
| 10. Pileus 1-3 mm. thick, not effused. | <i>T. crispellus</i> (Peck) Murrill |
| Pileus 5 mm. or more thick, effused-reflexed | <i>T. Ellisianus</i> Murrill |
| 11. Surface conspicuously villose or tomentose. | 12 |
| Surface glabrous or nearly so. | 13 |